

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



U. S. Department of Agriculture
and State Agricultural Colleges
Cooperating.



States Relations Service, Office
of Extension Work North and West,
Washington, D. C.

This Looks Good

DATA FROM A SUMMARY OF THE ANNUAL REPORTS OF COUNTY AGENTS - 1920.

The fine cooperation of the county agents enabled us to complete our annual report fully six weeks ahead of any previous year. More than thirty per cent of the agent's reports were in the Washington office by December 6. We did want to be 100 per cent this year and close the count on January 1, but about twenty belated reports held us up for ten days. Not only did the reports come in promptly this year, but the quality of the narrative reports was also high. The statistical matter has all been summarized and a National total taken which has been made available to the director of the States Relations Service, to the Secretary of Agriculture and Congressional committees. The reading and indexing of the narrative reports are also practically completed so that this material is readily available to extension specialists and research officers of the Department.

The attached data give a few of the National totals which may be of interest to you. From time to time we are sending out to county agents in "This Looks Good" some stories from agent's reports. We wish to thank every county agent for his splendid attitude in the matter of reports, which is well expressed in the following quotation from the November report of Knute Bjorka, county agent in Worth County, Iowa, to his county agent leader:

"Considerable time has been devoted to the preparation of the annual report during this month. The annual report includes a summary of the year's activities and four copies are prepared; one for the State office, one for the United States Department of Agriculture, one for the Farm Bureau office and one for the county agent's files. Practically all of the data incorporated in the report was obtained from the files of the office. It may seem that spending time on a report of this kind is not worth a great deal and yet we find that it is time well spent. It not only furnishes the state and federal officers with a record of what has been accomplished during the year, but it has a greater value than that: first, the county agent and the farm bureau get a greater conception of what has been accomplished during the year by reviewing the results and gathering them together in summary form; second, the summary thus gathered can be made available to the farm bureau members of the county so that they will know what activities have been carried on. Definite results must be shown in order to warrant the existence of the work, and to show definite results, definite data must be available. An effort has been made during the year to summarize from month to month as well as possible; and with special projects, separate project reports have been prepared which include detailed data on that particular subject.

"It is the conclusion of the county agent after three years in the field that too much data cannot be filed and too many records cannot be kept provided they are maintained in a systematic way and are carefully analyzed."

SUMMARY OF DATA FROM THE ANNUAL REPORTS OF COUNTY AGENTS
1920.

Kind of work done	Number	Average per county reporting
Drainage systems planned and adopted	1,737	4
Acres involved in drainage systems	470,299	1,219
Irrigation systems planned and adopted	416	4
Acres involved in irrigation systems	1,365,141	13,383
Acres of clover or other legumes plowed under for green manure	189,972	674
Farms on which lime or limestone was used	24,157	43
Farms selecting seed corn, fall, 1920	113,842	232
Farms testing seed corn for germination	59,510	139
Farms testing seed wheat for smut	35,275	78
Farms testing seed oats for smut	40,660	94
Farms on which barley growing was introduced or farm practice relative to barley culture modified	2,450	11
Farms on which rye growing was introduced or farm practice relative to rye culture modified	5,595	17
Farms on which bean growing was introduced or farm practice relative to bean culture modified	3,039	24
Farms treating seed potatoes for disease	36,018	56
Farms spraying potatoes for disease	20,282	46
Farms on which alfalfa growing was introduced or farm practice relative to alfalfa culture was modified	12,795	17
Farms on which sweet clover growing was introduced or farm practice relative to sweet clover culture was modified	6,675	11
Farms on which soy bean growing was introduced or farm practice relative to the soy bean culture was modified	14,921	26
Farmers for whom improved seed was secured		
Corn	11,256	23
Wheat	15,475	32
Oats	4,065	13
Rye	3,023	11
Potatoes	11,291	29
Other	6,443	26
Farms on which rodent-control methods were followed	77,795	192
Acres involved in rodent-control methods	15,942,460	42,513
Farms on which insect-control methods were followed	74,205	141

Kind of work done	Number	Average per county reporting
Total number of registered animals secured	35,863	32
Cow testing associations organized in 1920	252	1
Silos erected	9,587	17
Animals tested for tuberculosis	232,700	476
Hogs vaccinated for cholera	412,811	718
Farm account books distributed	71,642	84
Farmers keeping such accounts thru year	19,829	48
Farmers making changes in their business as result of keeping accounts	3,213	15
Farm laborers supplied thru agent or farm bureau	101,400	128
Cooperative associations which farm bureau and county agent have helped to organize in 1920	1,988	3
The amount of business done	\$39,562,964	104,387
Savings effected thru such cooperative business	\$ 2,899,764	9,118
Total value of business done by all cooperative associations cooperating with county agent and farm bureau	\$375,714,660	641,153
Saving effected thru such associations	\$ 21,152,773	42,053
Water supply systems planned and installed	603	2
Sewage disposal systems planned and installed	717	3
Lighting systems planned and installed	1,474	10
Boys and girls clubs incident to crops, livestock and home-making projects	5,730	8
Members enrolled in above clubs	72,848	95
Members in above clubs completing work	39,665	52
Different farmers visited on their farms	352,123	284
Office consultations relating to extension work	1,392,427	1,205
Days in field	182,556	167
Days in office	133,651	116
Number of farm bureau members November 30, 1919	523,366	553
Number of farm bureau members November 30, 1920	767,612	773
Number of community committees	11,561	13
Number of county project committee meetings	4,475	8
Number county farm bureaus publishing farm bureau news	730	1

SUMMARY OF DEMONSTRATION WORK PER AGENT 1916 - 1920

	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	Average for 5 years
Number of demonstrations per agent	80	64	69	82	47	68
Number of demonstration meetings per agent	25	24	29	50	31	32
Attendance at demonstra- tion meetings per agent	642	741	598	753	586	667
Profits from demonstra- tions per agent		\$8817	\$19,600	\$20,267	\$10,893	\$14,894

Attention is called to the rather marked decrease in the amount of demon-
stration work for 1920 in comparison with 1919. It is also noted that the de-
monstration work for 1920 is considerably below the average for the past five
years.

County Agent Section
2-1-'21
No. 33-L

W. J. H.